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Claims 1-6 and 14-18 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 14 are the only independent claims and each has been amended herein. Consideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 and 14-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Okazaki et al. (US 2002/0018556). In light of the foregoing claim amendments and the following discussion, this rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Each of independent Claims 1 and 14 has been amended herein to recite that a user inputs a "desired lapsed time, in seconds" for the ring tone.

The amended claim language is fully supported by the specification as filed, at least at paragraphs [0019] and [0022], which recite, respectively, that "at 104, the user operates (e.g., manipulates one or more keypad buttons) user interface 20 to enter a desired elapsed time (e.g., number of seconds) for the ring tone...[t]his elapsed time functions as a ring tone stop designation", and, "at 110, processor 12 uses the desired elapsed time entered at 104 to determine the ring tone file stop point".

Okazaki, on the other hand, describes a method of generating ring tones in which a 'click operation' is judged at step S12, and if it is a first time, it is stored in CPU 135 as the 'start point address', and if the click operation is judged to be a 'second time' (step S15), the corresponding storage address is stored in CPU 135 as the 'end point address' (step S16) (paragraphs [0049]-[0050]).


Okazaki does not teach or suggest a determination of stop time (or stop 'designation') of a ring tone, based upon a user input providing the desired elapsed time in seconds.

For at least the foregoing reason, Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claims are patentable over Okazaki and that the application is in condition for allowance. If a telephone conference would facilitate examination of this application in any way, the

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Examiner is invited to contact applicant's attorney. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
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